

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 11 June 1948

SUBJECT Arrested Leading Communists

NO. OF PAGES

25X1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1

DATE OF INFO

CIA Library

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

1. General Peter Vranchev, Chief of the Military Intelligence Section I, Slavko Trnski (his aide), and about 60 other intelligence officers were arrested in their homes during the early morning hours of 2 May. Vranchev's apartment on Klement Gottwald Street was thoroughly ransacked by Communist agents who allegedly were seeking evidence incriminating Vranchev in a plot to kill Georgi Dimitrov. 25X1
2. These arrests are said to be the result of a bitter feud between the Moscovite and local Communists. Vranchev, who apparently heads the local Communist faction, was reported to have been relieved of his position one week earlier along with General Iliev. An old-line Communist and partisan, Vranchev visited Moscow after the Red Army arrived. In his official capacity he was responsible for the death of hundreds and the internment of thousands.
3. The arrest of Vranchev is said to be connected with the 1 May attempt at Kniazevo on the life of General Ivan Kinov, Bulgarian Army Chief of Staff, and General Yeno Ganev, Commandant of the Military School. Dimitrov was to have had lunch at Ganev's school following the May Day parade, but at the last moment he changed his plans and visited the Vasil Levski Military Academy instead. About seven men were killed in the assassination attempt, and approximately 20 were wounded.

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Document No.

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DATE 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDC 680-77/1763

Date: 05/04/78 By

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